

Colonel Pantanelli loved her country unconditionally and her legacy will live on in the hearts of all those she impacted during her many years of selfless service. On behalf of New York's 21st District, it is my honor to remember and celebrate the life of Colonel Johnnie Pantanelli.

HONORING DENISE CLAYTON

HON. MORGAN MCGARVEY

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 14, 2023

Mr. MCGARVEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Denise Clayton for her incredible service to Kentucky's Third District.

As a Louisville native and graduate of the University of Louisville's Brandeis School of Law, Denise was the first Black woman to serve on the Kentucky Court of Appeals, which she currently serves on as chief justice. Her dedication to break down barriers serves as an inspiration to many across Louisville. I thank Denise for her commitment to our community.

RECOGNIZING LUCY BILLINGSLEY

HON. BETH VAN DUYNÉ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 14, 2023

Ms. VAN DUYNÉ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lucy Billingsley, a trailblazer in the real estate space and a legendary North Texan. Lucy has been selected to receive the Virginia Chandler Dykes Leadership Award from Texas Woman's University.

In 1978, Lucy and her husband Henry founded the Billingsley Company to manage their growing real estate portfolio. Thanks to their innovative approach and grit, the Billingsleys have become some of the most sought-after developers in Texas, and their company has received numerous awards for design excellence.

In addition to her work as a commercial real estate developer and business owner, Lucy has remained civically involved and has served our community through her involvement on numerous boards and advisory committees. Lucy's tenacity has brought great economic opportunity to North Texas, and her civic leadership has forever bettered our community.

Lucy has received many other prestigious accolades for her work, including being inducted into the Texas Business Hall of Fame, the Junior Achievement of Dallas Business Hall of Fame, the North Texas Commercial Association of REALTORS Hall of Fame and was awarded the 2013 H. Neil Mallon Award presented by the World Affairs Council of Dallas/Fort Worth. Lucy also has been recognized by Commercial Real Estate Women as a distinguished leader in commercial real estate.

I thank Lucy for going above and beyond for our community, and I congratulate her on this well-deserved award. Her selflessness and devotion do not go unnoticed.

RECOGNIZING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BAY PINES VA HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 14, 2023

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 90th anniversary of the Bay Pines VA Healthcare System. With the opening of its first domiciliary in 1933, Bay Pines VA became the cornerstone for Veteran healthcare throughout Tampa Bay. Now, the Bay Pines VA Healthcare System proudly serves more than 110,000 Veterans annually across the Southwest region of Florida. Since its inception, its team of dedicated professionals have worked tirelessly to foster an experience that is built on respect and transparency. The team also strives to remain Veteran-focused in all decision-making. As our community celebrates this important milestone, I'd like to congratulate Director Paul Russo and his entire team for their efforts to ensure all Veterans receive the care they've earned and deserve.

HONORING RUBY HYDE

HON. MORGAN MCGARVEY

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 14, 2023

Mr. MCGARVEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor civil rights icon Ms. Ruby Hyde, or as many of us from Louisville call her, Ms. Smoketown, for her unwavering commitment to equality.

Ruby has been a community activist for decades. As the founder of the Smoketown Heritage Festival, she has dedicated herself to honoring and uplifting Louisvillians from all walks of life. From her passion for equality to her volunteer work with Wayside Ministries, Ruby is a shining example of what it means to be a leader. I thank Ruby for everything she does for our community.

HONORING VIVIAN RODRIGUEZ AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 14, 2023

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Vivian Rodriguez retired from the New York City Police Department after completing 21 years of service and achieving the highest recognition within the Detective Bureau—first grade detective.

During her law enforcement career, she served in many specialized units, including the Organized Crime Control Bureau and the Dignitary and Executive Protection Unit safeguarding the New York City mayor and his family. Vivian was assigned to the Intelligence Division during the 9/11 terrorist attack and was involved in various covert anti-terrorism operations to secure New York City and the homeland from future terrorist incidents. Vivian worked for several years as a consultant and

trainer with the Department of Homeland Security delivering a national Anti-Terrorism Intelligence Awareness Training Program to State and local law enforcement agencies.

Vivian relocated to Orlando, Florida, after her retirement and became active with the local Orange County Democratic Party where she eventually was elected as the vice chair. As the president of the Democratic Hispanic Caucus of Florida, Vivian advocated for Latino empowerment and inclusion and became the chair of the Florida Democratic Party Diversity and Inclusion Committee. She has been active with many Hispanic, women, and LGBTQ+ civil rights organizations including Ruth's List and the Human Rights Campaign. Additionally, she was both the president and executive director of the Gay Officers Action League in New York City and Central Florida.

In 2020, Vivian was elected as a DNC member with the Florida delegation. She currently serves on the DNC Women's Executive Committee and is the DNC LGBTQ and DNC Hispanic Caucus southern regional representative. Vivian recently retired on March 31, 2022, after serving more than 5 years as the outreach director and law enforcement coordinator for Congressman DARREN SOTO. She has also worked and contributed her campaign experience with several congressional, State, and local races.

RECOGNIZING GARRETT HOLMES

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 14, 2023

Mr. SWALWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Alameda County Sheriff's Department Division Commander and Dublin Police Chief Garrett Holmes on the occasion of his retirement after over 28 years of service on Friday, March 17, 2023.

Growing up in Pleasanton and graduating from Amador Valley High School, Garrett has called the Tri-Valley home for over 45 years. In 2011, he graduated from the FBI National Academy, earning one of the most stringent police officer training certificates in the country.

In 1993, Garrett started his career as a Reserve Deputy with the Alameda County Sheriff's Office (ACSO), working at the North County Jail and Santa Rita Jail. In 2005, Garrett joined Dublin Police Services (DPS), serving on patrol, crime prevention, and investigations. In the years that followed, Garrett took the responsibilities of field training officer and supervisor, patrol supervisor, and administration sergeant, and rose to the rank of Lieutenant. In 2009, Garrett left DPS to serve with ACSO as a Captain and Commanding Officer at the Oakland International Airport.

In 2015, Garrett returned to DPS to oversee operations and administration and, in December 2017, was promoted to Division Commander and Police Chief. Under Garrett's leadership, DPS initiated transparent and accessible community policing, offering regular meetings with the public, publishing a Dublin Police Annual Report, and hosting "Coffee with the Chief" events.

Outside of his career, Garrett has consistently engaged with the community, coaching local Pleasanton soccer and softball teams.